8 PAGES

FREE PRESS

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IRA bombs police post

A single policeman braved a 5-minute hail of machine-gun bullets yesterday as IRA gunmen opened fire on the station he was guarding.

The constable was outside the Queens Street barracks in the centre of Belfast, when two men drove up and stopped outside. They began firing with a machine-gun, as the policeman tried to defend himself with a shotgun.

Then the two men hurled a bomb at the station door which completely wrecked the sandbag emplacement protecting the station, and smashed windows for hindreds of yards around.

Eye witnesses said the men had cleared civilians out of the area before launching the attack.

It is the second time that that station has been the target for an attack and the incident will add to controversy which continued yesterday over the Army's decision to withdraw military sentries from RUC stations in the province.

Yesterday, Mr Graham Shillington, the Chief Constable of Belfast, made a firm declaration that his men would not continue to guard their own stations. At present police constables equipped with repeating shotguns and revolvers, undertake sentry duty, but the police union in Northern Ireland has protested at the inadequacy of this protection.

Mr Faulkner's statement page 7.

Last night's bomb attack will add light to this argument.

In his statement yesterday, Mr Shillington said that some form of protection for the personnel and families at all RUC stations was required under present conditions. "It is desirable that the protection should not be undertaken by the RUC who are fully trained law enforcement officers, and should not be contained to static station protection duties.

"The recent issue of shotguns can only be regarded as an interim measure, pending a permanent arrangement for the protection of police stations."

The Army apologised last night to the parents of a young girl who was hit in the face by a rubber bullet during a brief outbreak of violence in the Ardoyne district of Belfast yesterday afternoon.

The incident ocurred in Etna Drive, when two soldiers engaged in house searching were surrounded by a crown of about 40 women. "They were somewhat hefty women" an Army spokesman said last night, "and the men had to fire two rubber bullets, one of which hit a small girl in the face." The girl was taken to a hospital to have bruises and cuts treated.

The Army spokesman continued, "parents who want to do this sort of thing, should not bring their children along."

There were a number of shooting incidents in Belfast yesterday. Trouble erupted

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

'Mao is dead' rumour

World wide speculation was sparked off by a report from Peking in a Paris newspaper yesterday that Chairman Mao was dead — or was gravely ill — after a heart attack.

Though there was no direct confirmation from the capital, observers noted further reports that the October 1 Parade — at which the Chinese leader receives the massive support of the demonstrators — had been cancelled. For three days all military and civil air traffic within China had been grounded, an event which has previously been linked only with major political upheaval.

The White House confirmed that Dr Paul Dudley White, the heart surgeon who attended President Eisenhower was one of two specialists now in Peking. French doctors, too, were reported to have flown to China.

The only comment from a Chinese source was that from the embassy in Ottawa. There an official said: "Rumours of this sort occur from time to time."

THE STILL SILENT PRESSES — see back page

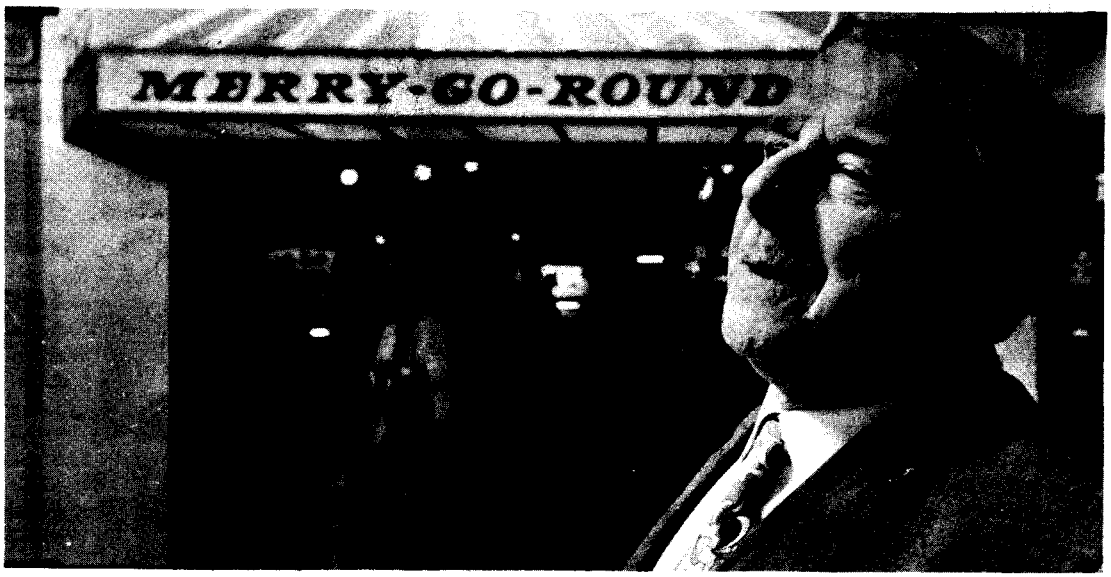
Posters start election row

There was trouble in Macclesfield yesterday after Conservative campaign posters were plastered over Labour posters at the home of the Labour candidate in the forthcoming byelection, Mrs. Diana Jeuda.

Five wheels were also taken from two cars at Mrs. Jeuda's country home near Macclesfield.

Mr Paul Carmody, Labour's regional organiser and campaign manager, said the incident was "damned disgraceful".

Mr Nicholas Winterton, the Conservative candidate, sent a letter to Mrs. Jeuda, deploring this "senseless behaviour".



SPAIN ROCKS SIR ALEC

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY, Sir Alec Douglas-Home, was bitterly attacked in two leading Spanish newspapers yesterday for his visit to Gibraltar last weekend.

The criticism was the harshest for two years and suggested that the Spanish Government should step up its campaign for return of the British colony, and not consider lifting any of its frontier restrictions against the colony.

Senor Gregorio Lopez Bravo, who became Foreign Minister in 1969, has taken much of the heat out of the Gibraltar dispute, while maintaining Spanish claims to the colony.

The leading Roman Catholic newspaper "Ya" today said that the Gibraltar situation had come to a head like a dangerous boil with Sir Alec's visit to Gibraltar, "an ostentatious demonstration of colonial domination over a piece of Spain".

Spain had sought a settlement of the conflictin the United Nations for years, and Senor Lopez Bravo had called for calm and patient talks on the problem.

But, the paper said, Britain was indulging in manoeuvres to divert the issue, and, it alleged, was trying to involve Morocco in the dispute on its side.

The newspaper said that this would not be the first time that Spanish goodwill had been cheated by immoral diplomacy.

If Britain was trying to come to an arrangement with Morocco, this would be another of the pirouettes with which it defied the UN recommendations

Rhodesian summit on the way

LORD GOODMAN'S visit to Rhodesia appears to have laid the ground for a meeting between Mr Ian Smith and Sir Alec Douglas-Home. On the final day of formal talks in Salisbury yesterday Lord Goodman and his three colleagues were apparently "dotting the i's and crossing the t's".

Political observers in the Rhodesian capital do not expect the summit meeting until later in the year — probably at the beginning of November. Political sources also suggest that Lord Goodman may pay another short visit to Rhodesia next month and that he may be followed by Sir Alec.

There is a great deal of optimism among the British delegation that the chances of a settlement are slightly better than evens. But the "Rhodesia Herald" sounded a note of caution in an editorial yesterday. The paper said: "It would be wrong to jump to conclusions either way at this stage — or even to believe that a settlement is on the cards until it is announced that Sir Alec Douglas-Home is on a plane bound for Salisbury."

And in Dar es Salaam the "Standard" said that any Rhodesian settlement now being discussed will be unacceptable to Africa.

"What remains uncertain is the state of opinion in Britain," it added. "Mainly spineless in action, at heart apathetic, the British have vacillated for so long that it is difficult to see them arriving at a decision.

What remains sure is that any possible settlement at present under discussion in London and Salisbury — and Pretoria — will be unacceptable to Africa."

11 die in floods

PEOPLE clambered onto their roofs in North-east Spain yesterday as floods poured through towns and villages after torrential thunder storms.

At least 11 people were reported to have been killed, including two young children who were swept away by the swollen river Llobergat in a village north-west of Barcelona.

Towns and villages throughout eastern Catalonia were cut off by the floods without rail, road or telephone links with the world outside.

The most serious flooding was in a 40-mile stretch of the Llobreget valley between the town of Manresa and the river mouth about 4 miles south of Barcelona.

Towns and villages on the river bank were inundated by floodwaters as deep as 10 ft in some places. But little damage was reported in central Barcelona itself.

South of the city however walls collapsed around a car factory and several industrial sites were flooded. The water also covered the main Barcelona-Valencia motorway.

ANGELA DAVIS TRIAL DELAY

SAN RAFAEL - The trial of Angela Davis has been postponed again. Miss Davis, who is accused of supplying the guns and helping to plan the escape

In brief

and kidnap attempt at Marin County last year which left 4 people dead, was to be tried initially on September 27. The attorneys for Miss Davis asked for the case to be moved to San Fransisco where "she stands some chance of receiving a fair trial".

WASHINGTON - President Nixon was reported to have warned Japan, Hong Kong, Formosa and South Korea that unless they reduced their textile exports to the United States by October 1, he would impose import quotas. A White House official said talks with the countries were still in progress.

PRETORIA - The Anglican Dean of Johannesburg accused one of the main state witnesses at his trial of being personally biased against him. The Dean charged under the Terrorism Act with plotting the violent overthrow of the South African government was in his third day of cross-examination by the state and his sixth in the witness box.

DANBURY - Father Philip Berrigan and six other prisoners have been returned to the Connecticut Federal Jail to complete their sentences after recovering from a one-month hunger strike. The protest had been in support of an appeal for parole by Berrigan and his brother, the Rev. Daniel Berrigan. Both priests are serving sentences for destroying draft records at Catonsville, Maryland, in 1968.

KAMPALA - President Amin signed a decree allowing the government to detain without trial men arrested concerning the army coup in January. About 200 men are believed to be in custody.

STOCKHOLM - Premier Palme left for an official visit to Zambia and Tanzania. He will have talks with President Kaunda and Dr Nyerere.

March into Bangla Desh planned

TWELVE people from seven countries are to attempt to cross into East Parkistan from India today with documents issued by the breakaway Bangla Desh Government.

Mrs Anna Taylor of Washington and Paul Connett, a Britain, said the group would walk into "Bangla Desh territory" with a banner saying "We recognise Bangla Desh"

The group is made up of delegates from the three day international conference on Bangla Desh which ended in New Delhi on Monday.

The group plans to cross the border at the Petropole checkpoint, north-east of Calcutta, and hope to be intercepted by Parkistani troups within a few hundred yards. They would then hand over a conference memorandum in support of Bangla Desh.

Mrs Taylor said the symbolic crossing would be a "Gandhian dramatisation" of the feeling of the international conference, which called for immediate recognition of Bangla Desh.

The countries taking part are Britain, Norway, Afghanistan, the USA, Argentina, Nigeria, and Australia.

Conference delegates are leaving for Calcutta today to visit some of the East Parkistani refugee camps on the West Bengal borders.

The operation Omega relief team which entered Parkistan last month from India without permission from the Parkistan authorities was sent back to India.

U.S. BOMBS NORTH VIETNAM

GIs to be tested for drugs

ALL American servicemen in Vietnam are to have their urine tested four times a year under a new programme designed to discover whether they are taking drugs.

The US Command in Saigon in a statement announcing the new campaign said it was expected to have "An impressive deterrent effect" on growing heroin usage. At present about 10 per cent of American servicemen become heroin addicts during their one-year tour in Vietnam.

The Command statement said the programme had been operating since August 25, but the spokesman said they had no figures on the number of tests so far, or the number of drug users discovered.

The tests will take the form of a series of snap inspections, with units selected on a more or less random basis and the men in them ordered to line up and give samples immediately

These will then be sent to one of the three centres for examination by machines that electronically detect the presence of heroin or opium derivatives.

Men found to be on drugs are sent to drug treatment centres, put through withdrawl, given counselling and then sent back to their unit. But under the new system they will be re-tested periodically. If they are found to be back on drugs, they will be given even more intensive treatment.

GERMAN AID FOR CLYDESIDE?

GERMAN firms may come to Clydeside to provide work for the unemployed of Renfrewshire and Dunbarton, Dr James MacFarlane, leader of a delegation seeking West German capital for the two counties, said in Dusseldorf yesterday, Tuesday.

MacFarlane said five or six firms show "acute interest" in setting up on the Clyde; negotiations with a sixth had been going on for three months. MacFarlane"s party is explaing incentives offered by the British Government and the two counties to investors who create jobs.

He denied that potential German investors might not be discouraged by Britain's record of labour disputes, and pointed to the new Industrial Relations Bill which, he said, had in the first half of this year kept strikes down to half their previous level. In any case, labour relations on Clydeside had always been better than elsewhere in Britain.

'Retaliation' claim by spokesmen

North Vietnam came under one of the heaviest American air attacks for three years yesterday as US air force planes flew more than two hundred sorties against military targets.

A special communique issued by the US military command in Saigon said: "In response to recently increased evidence of North Vietnamese anti-aircraft and missile activity against our unarmed reconaissance aircraft flying over North Vietnamese territory and US attack aricraft flying over Laos near North Vietnamese territory, US tactical aircraft today conducted protective reaction strikes against military targets in North Vietnam constituting a threat to the safety of US Forces."

The attacks were within an area extending to 35 miles north of the demarcation line.

American spokesmen said the anti-aircraft bases against which the attack was launched had increased by 40% since the end of July.

Since the bombing halt on November 1, 1968, the United States has claimed the right to continue reconaissance flights over North Vietnam and to retaliate any attacks on them.

Hanoi, however, has never conceded that the Americans had this right.

In March this year, about 250 US aircraft struck at North Vietnamese gun sites for two days and Mr Melvin Laird, the defence secretary, later described the attacks as "protective reaction raids".

There was no indication of how many planes were involved in yesterdays strike.

The fighting stepped up elsewhere in the Indo-Chinese peninsula yesterday.

South-west of Saigon, the American destroyer Epperson came to the aid of South Vietnamese troops engaged in a confrontation with Vietcong troops in the U Minh forest.

The destroyer pounded swamps near the forest with heavy artillery in an attempt to help the government forces to halt the Communist attacks.

A spokesman for the Saigon forces claimed that nearly 600 Vietcong and North Vietnamese had been killed during the eight-day engagement in the forest in return for 109 South Vietnamese dead.

Skirmishes were also reported from the Central Highlands, where at least 29 North Vietnamese were said to have been killed and from the Cambodian border where 14 North Vietnamese were killed as they attempted to get back across the border.

In the capital, a bomb explosion at the headquarters of the South Vietnamese Confederation of Labour — Not far from the presidential palace — wounded one worker.

The blast came only a few minutes after the president of the confederation had left the building

and officials said the room in which it ocurred was normally occupied for meetings at that time.

Meanwhile, students demonstrated in Saigon against conscription claiming that there was no point in continuing their studies if they were to be drafted into the army.

Police met the students with tear gas and forced them to retreat to university buildings.

The quarrel between President Nguyen Van Thiem and his vice president, Nguyen Cao Ky, in the shadow of the coming one-man presidential election, took a new turn as Thieu categorically denied Ky's charge that he was feeling so insecure that he had started to sneak away from the presidential palace.

In Cambodia, officials said a North Vietnamese mortar and commando attacks on two fuel stores in Phnom Penh on Monday had destroyed less than half the civilian fuel in the capital.

A convoy due up the Mekong from South Vietnam in a few days would make up the loss the officials predicted. Rain helped the fire fighters to bring the blazing storage tank at the big Esso and Shell Petroleum installations under control.

BOMBS

Continued from page one

during a night in which 27 people were injured in a bomb attack on a Protestant public house in the centre of the city. Yesterday six of the victims, including a pregnant woman, were still detained in hospital, although injuries were said not to be serious.

In the most serious of the daylight shootings a police landrover came under automatic fire in Andersonstown, following an arms search during which six loaded revolvers were discovered.

A bomb disposal officer narrowly escaped injury yesterday afternoon when a bomb on which he was working exploded. The soldier was trying to defuse the bomb outside the telephone exchange in Bellarghy, County Londonderry, when he realised it was going to explode. He ran about ten yards and threw himself flat on the ground as the bomb went off, badly damagin the telephone exchange and wrecking most of hi equipment.

An apprentice workin at the Royal Naval Aircraft Yard on the outskirts of Belfast was in court yesterday charged with possession of explosives at the Yard. Prosecution counsels alleged that 20 lbs of gelignite had been found in a hangar; the apprentice, Mr Patrick Vallely,

from Ballymurphy was remanded in custody til next week.

More than 4,000 Ulster loyalists were at a rally in front of Belfast City Hall yesterday afternoon, bringing all city centre traffic to a standstill. The meeting had been called to protest at the proposed tri-partite talks which are planned between Mr Heath, Faulkner and Lynch, which are due to begin next week, and which many staunch Unionists see as a threat to the constitutional status of the province.

Capt. Austin Ardill, the former Stormont MP who chaired the meeting said he wanted all Westminster MPs debating the Ulster crisis today to hear "the voice of the people of Ulster."

Other speakers, who included a shipyard leader Mr Billy Hull, and the former Minister of Home Affairs, Mr Wm Craig, called for the restoration of the old B-specials -

GEORGE SEFERIADES

GEORGE Seferiades, the poet, died in Athens on Monday after a long illness. By profession a diplomat, he was also one of the most distinguished poets whose work was a symbol of the Hellenic acceptance of life.

He was born in Smyrna in February 1900, the son of a professor of international law., and entered the Greek foreign service in 1926.

OBITUARY

During the war he was a member of the Greek government in exile and returned to London in 1957 as Ambassador.

Seferiades was a tragic poet whose aim was always to reconcile the heroic endeavor in his country's history with the catastrophe that almost inevitably overwhelmed it.

He had a vivid power to evoke the past but for all his preoccupation with the Hellenic spirit he was never chauvinistic and his poetry was in the main stream of European culture. He was awarded a Nobel Prize for literature in 1963.

Although living in Greece, he was always an opponent of the military regime and refused to publish any of his works for two years in protest against the overthrow of democracy.

'Ambassador' Palace Theatre

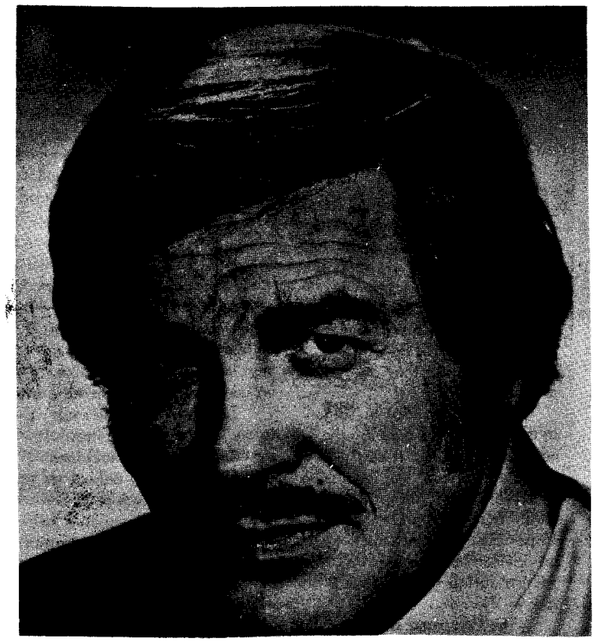
LUSH LOVE AND BISCUITS

The Palace Theatre, Manchester is a big, shabby but comfortable theatre with the homely touch of biscuits with your interval coffee. Unexpectedly it's opening with the premiere of a new musical "Ambassador" financed by an American company at £100,000. So for 50p to £7.50p you can see £100,000 worth of live new entertainment.

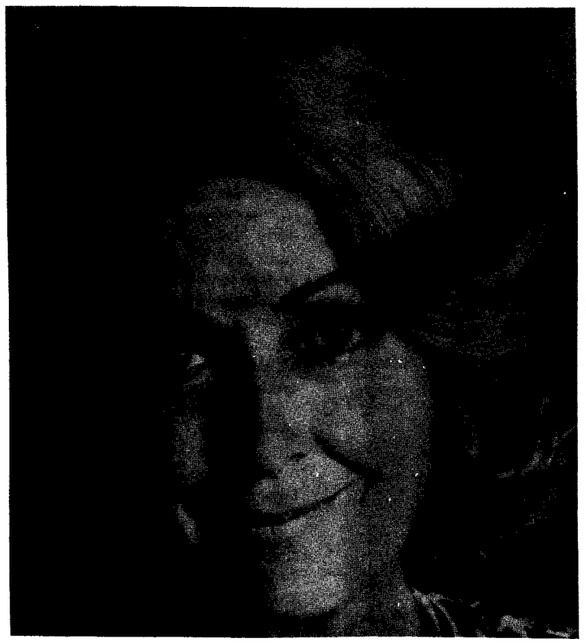
What does this mean? No musical is staged without hope of profit- and "Ambassador" is no exception. Thus the producers have presumably chosen this particular story by Henry James for its ingredie nts of love in the lush, romantic glamour of Paris. And Paris we get, through the eyes of American star Howard Keel- sharp sophisticated, gay- a scarlet garter through the demure vale of pink nostalgia. Paris we get, with its hacknied tarts, artists and tramps sweetly sentimentalised.

Luckily Henry James cut d deep. And the producers h have had the sense not to obscure his poetic conflict between life and death, Paris and America. Nor have they much altered the tangled, unhappy but very real triangle of human love that he takes as his core. An old man, in love with an old woman, in turn flattered and enrapt by a young lover. Not pretty but genuinely moving. And, as Howard Keel, always honest and unpretentious, grows vulnerable as the betrayed but understanding lover, as Danielle Darrieux responds, facing the truth but still defiant as the woman: the gloss falls away. Both of these players make a come-back with an added independence, self -assurance - a certain dignity and maturity.

Choreography by Ray Holder has demonstrative, acrobatic verve. Costume by Peter Rice has accentuated brilliance, though songs a and music were only passable. Direction was by Stone Widney.



Howard Keel



Danielle Darrieux

TV & Radio

BBC 1

9.38 - 11.55 Schools
12.25 Nai Zindagi Naya Jeevan
1.0 Tony ac Aloma
1.30 Woodentops
1.45 News

2.05 - 2.25 Schools
4.15 Playschool
4.40 Jackanory
4.45 Tales of Tsar Sultan
5.20 Screen Test
5.45 Magic Roundabout
5.50 News

6.0 Nationwide
6.50 Tom and Jerry
7.0 Owen MD
7.25 Star Trek
8.10 Barlow at large
9.0 News
9.20 Dave Allen at large
10.5 Double Vision

10.35 24 Hours
11.10 Anglers' Corner
11.25 Weather and News

BBC 2

11.0 Play School
7.30 Newsroom
8.0 Man Alive
9.0 Spoiling in the Sun
9.20 The Search for the Nile
10.20 All in a Day
11.5 News on 2
11.10 Late Night Line Up

Granada

10.20 - 11.55 For Schools
1.40 -2.32 Schools
4.10 News Headline
Peyton Place
4.40 Zingalong
4.55 Sooty
5.15 Ace of Wands
5.50 News
6.0 Newsday - This is Your L
6.30 Birds Eye View
7.0 Odd Couple
7.30 Caronahon Street
8.0 Jason King
9.0 Public Eye
10.0 News at Ten
10.30 The Comedians
11.0 Wrestling
11.45 Paper Say

Radio Manchester

5.30 News
6.45 Up and About
9.3 Day to Day
9.23 Mini Manchester
9.33 Piccadilly 33
11.30 Midway
12.30 Folk Story Highlights
1.0 News Round NK
1.0 News Round North West
1.30 Manchester Music Makers
2.3 Terry Wogan
3.45 Local Radio
4.15 DAY to Day
4.35 Mini Manchester
4.45 This Evening
6.45 From Me to a
6.45 From Me to You
7.15 News File
7.45 Torchlight
9.0 City Scene
10.0 Newsround North West
10.3 Rai
10.3 Radio 2

Strong demand for shares

ENCOURAGING profit statements from a mo statements from a number of the large industrials instilled a fresh feeling of confidence into markets yesterday and the depressing influences of the past week were temporarily forgotten.

Leading equities led the revival, but most second-rankes
rankers were able to show some improvement by the end of the day.

BUSINESS NEWS

ICI responded to the improved trend with their first significant improvem first significant improvement in two weeks and closed 7p to the good at 323p.

Oils rallied from Mondays lower levels and good gains wr
were recorded in BP at 587-1/2p, Ultramar at 300p and Burmah at 426p.

In late dealings, Smith and Nephew surrendered 3-1/2p to 71-1/2p on news that American safety standards wpuld
standards would interfere with a pt
with a proposed new venture in the US.

Breweries were steady to firm , although Vaux com
continued to lose ground and closed another 2-1/2p off 362-1/2p.

In builders Greensitt and Barratt were again prominent and hardened 3p more to 90p.

Lead industries were onr
Lead industries were one of the disappointments of th the day fali
of the disappointments of the day, falling 14p to 104p on the poor half-yearly report.

V&G WAS 'PROBLEM GROUP'

Vehicle and General, the insurance company which went into liquidation was a problem company according to an official of the Department of Trade and Industry.

Mr Christopher Jardine, who was in charge of the insurance and companies division of the department, agreed with Sir Blwyn Jones Q.C. representing policy and share holders, that V&G consistently refused to provide information sought by the department.

Mr Jardine added that companies that were un-co-operative were liable to be the most suspect. But he said they did noy exercise their powers to investigate the company under the Insurance Companies Act because they did not think they were entitled to.

Sir Elwyn said the history of the case showed that the department had cause for knowing that the policies persued by V&G were "Potentially disastrous, yet it remained ineffective in stopping that course being persued to its final shipwreck on the rocks."

Shipping bid?

RENEWED speculation on the London Stock Exchange that a bid could be in the offing for Court Line, the shipping and travel group, put the shares another 6d higher in early dealings before they eased back to show a gain of 2d on the day at 194d.

The City's favourite as the most likely bidder has been Shipping and Industrial Holdings, the company which pwns the Clarksons holiday group.

NEWCOMERS IN SOCCER SQUAD

SIR ALF Ramsey's image as a creature of habit altered slightly yesterday when he named his football League team to meet the League of Ireland in Dublin today.

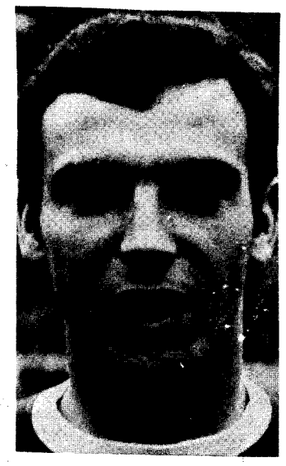
Because of injuries to Alan Ball, Francis Lee and Colin Bell, and because Leeds, W. Ham and Spurs have club matches today, the side is without eight or so full internationals who probably would have played, in favour of some interesting and fairly new men who have been given their chance against the Irish part-timers.

Experimentation like this can only help England's chances in the European championishp matches with Switzerland. Alan Woodward, Sheffield U's main scorer for the past two season's has played a major a part in his club's fine start in the First Division this year, and wins his first full representative honour. David Nish and John Radford, the other replacements for Ball and the Manchester City pair also go straight into the team.

Woodward joins a forward line which includes Kevin Hector and Peter Osgood, with Emlyn Hughes wearing the No 11 shirt. Another interesting choice is at left half, where David Sadler's impressive form in Manchester United's resurgence has not been forgotten. Sadler is playing with more assurance than at the time of his disappointment at being omitted from England's final squad in Mexico, and deserves his renewed opportunity to establish a full international place.

The Football League team who should have little difficulty in emulating their predecessor's performance of 1967 in winning by the comfortable margin of five goals, is; Banks(Stoke City) Lawler(Liverpool), Nish (Leicester City), Storey (Arsenal), McFarland (Derby County), Sadler (Manchester United), Woodward (Sheffield United) Hector (Derby County), Radford(Arsenal), Osgood (Chelsea), Hughes (Liverpool), Reserves: Shilton(LeicesterCity), Todd(Derby County).

Freddie Hill pla his first senior game of the season for Manchester City night at Maine Road in a friendly match against the West German side Hertha (Berlin). Hill has been receiving treatment for the past two months with an Achilles tendon injury. The, unsettled Neil Young also return after a month's absence along with Derek Jeffries. Lee, Bell, and Mike summerbee not play, Leeds United also have injury problems for their match with Barcelona.



Manchester United's David Sadler (above) and Alan Woodward.

Best's new freedom

One of the most pleasing aspects of this season so far has been the fine form of Sheffield United and their position at the top of the first Division has been justly earned. On Saturdaythey are at home to Chelsea and one can hardly see the Londoners being the first to win at Bramhall Lane this campaign. Chelsea have plenty of talent in their ranks and one of the biggest threats to United could be the effervescent Charlie Cooke but there is sufficient skill and thrust in United's attack to carry the day. Alan Woodward, Tony Currie and Stewart Scullion are three forwards to be feared and respected by any set of defenders.

The tighter control of the referees has given the natural ball player the chance to reveal all his talents and none has profited more than George Best whose brilliance has undoubtedly had a big bearing on United's good start. The emergence of Alan Gowling as a sound mid-field has also been a pleasant surprise and the way United are playing as a whole at the moment strengthens the belief that they are good enough to beat Liverpool at Anfield. If Tommy Smith is back for Liverpool he could provide the midfield power that was lacking at Elland Road last Saturday.

Norwich City, leaders in the Second Division, are a businesslike side with a very capable defence. They should defeat Bristol City at Ashton Gate,

Rascolnik looks today's best bet

Rascolnik, trained by Peter Walwyn at Lambourn could hardly have been more impressive when he came home seven lengths clear of King's Ward in a seven furlong maiden race at Salisbury two weeks ago. following a promising third to Billy Bremner in a similar event at York. The York form has worked out well with both Billy Bremner and Alonso, who was forth, having won since, and Rascolnik looks todays best bet in division one of the Malthouse Plate at Lingfield.

Kinsman justified favouritism at Wolverhampton last time out, but had to be pushed along to beat The Tystan by a length, and Calcine, third to Jakomima and First Flight at Newbury. looks the principal danger to Rascolnik.

Noel Murless, who has alredy saddled a dozen winners at Lingfield this season, should have a first and second race double with Rebus(1.45) andMockbridge(2.15). Rebus can improve on a promising first effort behind Buss at Goodwood in the Nutfield Plate, andMockbridge, though she has plenty to do with 8st 13lbs may be capable of conceding the weight to Blue River Wonder and the others in the Billhurst Nursery Handicap.

Crown(2.45) looks weighted to best course and distance winner Skyhawk in the Woldingham Handicap and the Rose of France(3.45), heavily backed when fifth to Aberfylde at Ripon, should recover those losses in the Tilburstow Handicap.

At Beverley,My Brief(3.30) who was abdly hampered when delivering his challenge at Doncaster, should have better luck in th Tetley Nursery

Tough moves in Ulster

The government of Northern Ireland last night announced tough measures to break the campaign of civil disobedience by opposing groups since internment.

In a major policy statement issued from Stormont, the governmentsaid it would act decisively "to ensure the proper fulfilment of the obligations of good citizenship."

If local authorities could not function properly because of the abstention of opposition party councillors, the government would pass legislation allowing it to appoint special administrators to run the authorities.

The government also plans to seek legal powers to break the rent and rates strikewhich is being supported by tens of thousands of anti-unionists. The powers will allow it to deduct the sum due for the rent and rates from state benefits due to individuals.

"A situation in which part of the community refusesto bear its fair share of public burdens," said the statement.

The government is also determind to tighten up security precautions in the province. The statement contained a new application for more volunteers to join the Ulster Defence Regiment and the RUC Reserve but it repeated the government's rejection of the third force demanded by extreme loyalists.

The statement says it is the government's objective to end emergency measures including internment and mandatory prison sentences as soon as possible, as long as there was no continuing risk to lives and property. The decision to introduce internment was made because of a mounting pattern of violence "which could not be borne in any community determined to stay alive".

If all parties were prepared to condemn the violence and agree to continue talks, there would be no further need for internment or measures to counter civil disobedience.

TV: no mucking about

Perhaps one of the best criticisms of television's coverage of the newspaper lockout came on "Granada's "Newsday" early evening magazine programme last night when a rather Tory-sounding gent was asked why he was buying the Free Press and immediately gave all the wrong reasons.

He was for anything, he said, that would stop these union chaps mucking the country about. Clearly television's coverage of the lock-out has not spent enough time giving background.

I watched all the news programmes last night and nowhere did I hear any words of explanation. One was left with those boring shots of TV newsmen, mikes in hand, standing on pavements doing ridiculously small bits of interviews.

"Are you hopeful Mr Feather?"

"Hopeful,"says Mr Feather, "I always like to be hopeful"

One of the problems in getting the newspaper lockout story across on TV has been, I'm sure, the simple fact of the absence of newspapers. Television news regularly dips into the national press and the lock-out has dried up that informative watering hole.

Just the same, BBC One's Tuesday documentary last night, "The Fight for Clydeside", was an interesting and personal look at the ship yard workers' "work in" done by Clydesider Hugh Cochrane, a broad speaking Scot with a real feel for the legendary hard times of the Upper Clyde shipworkers.

But why must the BBC always tie one of those waffleful discussion groups like a tin can on the tail end of every programme that does not follow the bosses line?

We got yet another one of these last night chaired by Ludovic Kennedy. What in the documentary had seemed alive and very human was turned by the panel discussion into a corpse of a subject suitable only for enbalming in a White Paper.

Stanley Reynolds

Musical cheers

It was a good day for music in the North West. Anthony Goldstone opened the new season of Manchester Tuesday Midday Concerts with a first-rate piano recital — movingly unaffected in Mozart's Sonata in B flat, K 570, inspired in Schubert's "Wanderer Fantasy", so elegant in the first half of Chopin's Andante Spianato and Grande Polonaise Brillante that not even he could make the polonaise seem more than an impertinence.

At the Bolton Festival, the Allegri Quartet continued its presentation of the last eight of Haydn's string quartets, to which it is devoting a series of four concerts. This was the second in the series, including Op. 76, Nos. 3 and 5, and it proved that the Allegri is the right ensemble for this particular project. They offer no frills, no special persuasion, but the music as it is, more or less, in clear, intelligent, and comitted performances.

Gerald Larner.

Police find man

A TATTOOED man police have been looking for since a widow's death in Bristol 25 days ago, was recognised in Slough yesterday. He is being taken to Bristol to help inquiries.

UCS—PATHE STYLE

YOU CAN TAKE your choice, but last nights documentary on BBC-1, portentously named "The Fight for Clydeside was either too late or far too early. As a backgrounder to the UCS affair (which still waits its confirmation) itnsaid nothing which had not been said for weeks past and only lacked one of those anxiously urrgent commentators to complete the Pathe style — we evven had Henry Hall quick-stepping the Queen Mary into the sunset and a pretty vview of a couple in frront of a loch.

Surely, UCS rraises all those spectrres and questions about the rrelationship of labour to capital. A good plain man's guide but with little analysis of what the takeovver means in terms more than a news image.

There was, however, in a shot of the huge August demonstrration just a hint of 1926; the British working class not so much failing to grasp power as not rreally wanting to do it.

Certainly John Eden, bland and Bournemouth, and Lord Robens who succeeded in calling Mr Reid, the workers' leader, Jimmy in the discussion following the documentary, seemed to see no threat to their varying degreesofmixed economy.

Will it be Lord Reid of Clydebank flaunting the boardrooom of the 1990's or the spectre of Jimmy Reid, shop steward? Wait and see.

Charting the UCS affair must be a gift of dreams to a televisoin man. The cameras had to be there at the start, or better before it, recording the impressions of the participents as the situation cahanged - not what they think now but what they thought then, before that pivvotal workers' meeting or speech in the House.

I fthat has been done and its a crying waste if it hasn't, the camerss and mikes are still on, UCS may represent a tiny shift in people's conception of themselves, or it might splutter aloong into compromise or what the workers would regard as failure. Either way, this documentary wasn't the one that recorded it.

Whisky theft

THEIVES WHO BROKE INTO a bonded warehouse in the centre of Manchester stole two thousand bottles of brandy and whisky worth more than £6,000. The raid on the warehouse in Grape Street, was discovered yesterday, but police believe it happened at the weekend.

ANOTHER DAY WITHOUT THE PAPER

AS THE TWO SIDES of the national newspaper industry settled down to negotiate a resumption of work at TUC headquarters last night, London's version of the Free Press failed again to come out.

This is the second day of failure. At 8 pm last night, riven by ideological argument, the editorial team behind The Paper decided it was too late to find a printer.

In an upper room of the Coach and Horses off Fleet Street, the journalists argued that unless they could go to a printer and say they were free newspaper writers they would not be prepared to go ahead.

Part of the editorial team, chiefly from the Sun, insisted that The Paper must come out with the active co-operation of the NGA: "Otherwise we shall be the laughing stock not only of the NPA but of Fleet Street" said one of the journalists.

Others said it was impossible, in a crisis situation, to produce a paper and to support the NGA.

By this time it was too late. The print trade had fled in alarm and the best that could be done was to plan for a third day of activity.

The official NPA-print union talks moved away last night to a shaky start, and adjourned just after midnight.

WHY THE BOSSES WENT ON STRIKE

The NPA closed the Fleet Street newspapers because, in their words, members of the NGA who had repeatedly been warned against holding chapel meetings in working hours had interfered with the production, repeated this activity.

The NPA's position is that it will not be pressed by industrial action into negotiating a separate pay deal with the NGA, pointing out that agreement had been reached in July with the negotiators of all production unions who recommend a joint settlement.

But the NGA consultative committee later turned this down and opted for a separate settlement.

When the NPA refused this, the NGA representing compositors and machine managers, among others, tried to force the employer to the negotiating table by holding a series of union meetings at awkward times which resulted in different newspapers in turn losing some of their production.

These meetings were clearly designed to be pin-pricks to jog the management's memory of the power of the NGA to threaten production.

But the series of meetings was in the union's words almost completed by Friday when the publishers' ultimatum was delivered and only Sunday paper NGA chapels remained to hold their meetings, which they did on Saturday.

Obviously, the NGA might have decided, following their executive meeting this week, to go ahead with full-scale stoppages or more disruptive union meetings.

But such a decision had not been made when the employers decided on Saturday night to stop the presses indefinitely until they got agreement with the NGA. In doing so, they terminated the employment of 5,000 NGA men on the spot without any pay in lieu of notice, whether they had been involved in the Saturday night union meetings or not. They also gave notice to the rest of their 30,000 employees in other unions (later defined as not including the journalists' union) that there employment was being ended.

The NPA denies that it has organised a lock-out which the dictionary describes as the closing of a factory or other place of business by an employer in order to make employees agree the terms. But the daily papers have been closed by the publishers precisely to make the NGA agree to terms.

What matters is the closing of the business and that is what the employers have done, with consequences possibly as serious for the fate of some newspapers as would be the case is a strike closed down production, as the NPA would be quick to point out.

There has been criticism of the shutdown on the grounds that it was an unnecessary over-reaction to an industrial dispute which was, in itself, not likely to close Fleet Street.

Certainly, by usual standards of industrial strife in Britain, it is an extreme course of action.

Imagine the situation if in response to union meetings by train drivers in several cities which disrupted some services, British Rail decided to close the stations and stop rail traffic throughout the country indefinitely.

But the NPA argued that if they had not taken this decisive action, the disruption of production, which was gravely damaging all the newspapers, could have gone on indefinitely.

In their view, the stalemate between the various unions who could not agree on a common wage claim, had to be ended and in the end it was the NGA men themselves who terminated their employment.

LETTERS

I BOUGHT a copy of Free Press with some misgivings, since the term freedom has increasingly become a peg upon which any left wing group of extremists will tack their ideas. My fears were confirmed.

Just who do you think you are ? The owners of the nation's newspapers, intimidated by the thug tactics of manual workers today, have decided to cease production. This should teach all concerned a lesson and stop any more nonsense.

Yet the journalists, who claim to be a profession and are clearly a group apart from those involved in production, attempt to make the owners look ridiculous. This is insanity and could well lead to further disruption.

As employees you are responsible to the owners of your newspapers and would do well to remember so.
Yours etc.,

John Wilmot

Gatley, Cheadle,
Cheshire.

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A NUMBER OF my friends have criticised the lack of socialist content in your paper. They may be right but I feel they have missed the point. The very fact that the paper has appeared at all is a tremendously significant thing in itself.

A product has appeared which has been produced by workers without one single employer being involved. It may not be the greatest paper in the world - but how many papers could the employers produce without any workers ? You have rendered a tremendous service to the cause of real socialism. You have proved that bosses are redundant.

Rick Sumner
23 Sewerby Street,
Manchester 16.

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